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beautiful illustrations of persons and places prominent in the history of the country.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Pennsylvania.

Collins, J. Byard. The New Agriculture. Pp. 374 Price, \$2.00. New York: Munn & Co., 1906.

"Back to the land and be an individual" is the burden of Mr. Collins's message. He states that "there are probably not less than two millions of people in this country at the present time who, by leaving their places which they now occupy as clerks, bookkeepers, salesmen and factory hands could, by earnestly and intelligently adopting the avocation of agriculture, better both their own condition and that of those dependent upon them."

This call to the land appears to be a city call of "go to it" rather than a country call to "come to it." It is much to be doubted if the writer at the present or at any time in the past has had regular engagements to milk the cows at 4.30 a. m., or even to go spray his trees in bug time. The urban tincture of the book is emphasized by the expression of sympathy with the viewpoint of the individual who has become a cog in a great system of corporations, graft and exploitation, where the individual has small chance to "carry out his own theories or strive for the advancement of his own ideals."

The basis for the call to the farm is the great scientific improvement that has recently placed new powers at the disposal of the farmer. This progress has received great notice of late in the newspaper and magazine press and in government bulletins, and Mr. Collins's book brings these matters into very useful and available form in thirty- to forty-page chapters on such topics as irrigation, the new fertilization, new creations, new varieties, new practices, new machinery, etc.

The book is a treatise rather than an experience, and savors considerably of poetry as well as of business, and he makes some mistakes. It will be of use, however, to any one who wishes to easily inform himself of recent progress in agriculture or cheer that ever-increasing hope that lies in urban hearts and makes men think of a farm home.

J. RUSSELL SMITH.

University of Pennsylvania.

Fairlie, John A. Local Government in Counties, Towns and Villages. Pp. xii, 287. Price, \$1.25. New York: The Century Company, 1906.

In this volume of the "American State Series" Professor Fairlie has undertaken a considerable task in 287 pages. First, in three chapters, or fifty pages, he attempts both to describe and to sketch the development of the forms of local government in England and in the United States from Roman times down to the present. Second, he offers us in four chapters, or eighty